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## PRINCIPALS OPPOSE HIGH SCHOOL FRATS

Sixteen of Twenty Flatly Against Faculty Supervision.

QUESTIONNAIRE GIVEN

One Favors Secret Societies, Three Approve Under Regulation.

CALLED 'BUTTER FLIES'

Girls Admitted if Brothers Dance Well, Letter to Board Chairs.

This is the second of a series of articles to appear in THE NEW YORK HERALD on this subject.

Principals of New York high schools, who direct the studies of 80,000 boys and girls, are opposed nearly unanimously to secret societies of pupils. Their opinions were collected by the Board of Education before it decided recently to ask or a State law abolishing the societies and declaring them to be "injurious to the good of the school system and to the democratic principles and ideals of public education and to the public good."

At the request of Harry B. Chambers, chairman of the Law Committee of the board, the secretary, A. Emerson Palmer, sent to all principals a letter asking them what they thought of secret organizations in high schools and whether it would be wise to sanction them under faculty supervision.

Of the twenty principals who answered sixteen were flatly against the societies, one strongly favored continuance under supervision and three thought supervision might work well. How the different principals feel may be gathered from a condensation of their replies.

William R. Hayward, Theodore Roosevelt High School, The Bronx, said: "I am absolutely opposed to secret societies in high schools, because I believe they serve no useful purpose and are in the main harmful to their effects. I realize that it is not an easy matter to eliminate these societies when once they have established themselves, but I am strongly opposed to their being allowed in the high schools in spite of this fact."

**Advantages Claimed.**  
Elmer E. Bogart, Morris High School, The Bronx, said: "The best that can be said is that there are undoubtedly a great many benefits that come to boys who are members of such organizations, through intimate friendships and through the comradeship that comes from close association between boys of the same taste and ideals, but after all, such organizations are out of place in a public school, particularly the public school of a democracy. Faculty supervision would be well nigh impossible at present within the school building, as there is no high school at the present time that has any room where meetings of such an organization could be supervised."

"The students who have been disappointed in failing to be elected to membership look upon these societies with exaggerated ideas of their importance. They feel that they have failed of election because of lack of wealth or social standing or influence of parents, and these are precisely the notions that we do not wish to have established in the minds of adolescent boys. Ability and merit alone would determine the ranking of students in the public schools."

Gilbert S. Blakely, the Evander Childs High School, The Bronx, noted that there are no secret societies authorized in or recognized by high schools, but there are Greek letter "fraternities" or "sororities," some professing to be non-secret, which have an intimate connection with the school and which pledge and initiate students after the manner of college fraternities.

"Certain advantages are claimed for them," Mr. Blakely wrote. "It is said members help one another and that the big ideals of the organization have a great effect on the development of character. Older members of the order, it is said, serve as leaders and exert a strong influence at a time when young people are in especial need of wholesome influence."

**"The Frat Crowd."**  
"On the other hand, it is evident that these are undemocratic organizations in democratic schools. Members are chosen for social rather than other qualities. In the clubs and societies of the school a broad invitation is given to the student body. . . . Those who join a fraternity must wait to be invited. . . .

The thought of the society is rather glory to itself than service to the individuals.

"In the school there is more or less feeling against what is called the 'frat crowd,' especially when there is an election among students or an opportunity for appointment to some place of honor or trust. The belief that the fraternity members are combining for certain candidates may be entirely imaginary, but such a belief is nearly as harmful in its effect on the school as the reality. It has been claimed that fraternities are of value because the members are associated under wise leadership, but sometimes the leadership is not wise, or, as I think more often happens, there is lack of leadership. What might have been useful becomes positively harmful. Habits are formed and excesses are indulged in to the injury of the boy and the regret of his parents. . . . In my judgment there can be no adequate faculty supervision because the school has no real authority."

Michael H. Lucey, Julia Richman High School, Manhattan, said he was opposed to secret societies in high schools "even if they are subject to faculty supervision." Stuart H. Rowe of the Wadleigh High School, Manhattan, said: "It has taken a tremendous amount of hard work to thoroughly rid the schools of the anachronism which is associated with secret societies. It is not necessary to have a society secret to have a good, live social organization." To Francis H. J. Paul of De Witt Clinton High School, Manhattan, it seemed that the existence of the secret orders under attempted faculty supervision "would mean that the educational authorities approved the creation and emphasis of undesirable class distinctions."

**Fraternities Flourish.**

Ernest R. von Nardoff, Stuyvesant High School, Manhattan, expressed himself: "I have always felt that on the whole, student fraternities are a pernicious influence in high schools and should be given no encouragement whatsoever. I realize that it is quite impossible to stamp them out completely, as it is quite easy for pupils to conceal the facts as to the fraternity affiliations. On that point, however, it is quite unnecessary for the school to give fraternities any helpful recognition or sanction."

Edward C. Zabriskie, Washington Irving High School, Manhattan, said he "quite possible" for the fraternities to be "the means of developing congenial friendships amongst mutually congenial students along worthy lines" if sponsored and supervised by a school faculty. He said secret societies never had existed in Washington Irving so far as he had any knowledge.

Arthur A. Boylan, George Washington High School, Manhattan, conceded that unsupervised fraternities developed vicious tendencies but added: "The attempt to prohibit our public school boys from seeking admission to fraternities is unwise. Since 1914 this prohibition has been in effect and yet during the last eight years fraternities have flourished in our schools. To continue such prohibition is to encourage our boys to evade the law. I would strongly urge that high school fraternities be permitted to exist, subject to faculty supervision."

Brooklyn, Incubator for several of the boy and girl Greek letter societies, gave this testimony: "Alto P. McDonald of Bushwick High School: 'The experience of secondary school principals throughout the country has proved conclusively, to my mind, that the high school fraternity is opposed to the best interests of the schools and of the students. I do not believe that faculty supervision of secret societies would solve the problem. They are fundamentally wrong, thoroughly undemocratic and should be combated.'"

William T. Vlyman, Eastern District High School: "In my judgment such societies should not be permitted in the high school. Any endeavor to have them and to keep them under supervision has

not in any case that I know of met with unqualified success."

Arthur L. James, Boys-High School: "I am opposed to the presence of these societies, whether supervised or otherwise. This position is the result of considerable experience, going back over twenty-five years in this school, when we had fraternities which were completely supervised and even controlled by members of the faculty. . . . In spite of this close relationship the fraternity spirit divided the school into factions, tended to get control of school politics, and to a considerable extent interfered with the freedom of athletics."

**"Mode of Social Butterflies."**

"In this school, so far as I have been able to learn, there are no fraternities in which the entire membership is to be found within this school. There are eight or ten such societies, however, whose membership is made up of a few boys of this school and a few from each of several other high schools. These fraternities meet at the homes of the students' parents, and to all intents and purposes are doing no harm except that they are undemocratic, and for that reason have no place in a public high school. Some of our best boys are members of such fraternities."

William L. Felter, Girls High School: "The secret society selects its members on a basis of exclusively so-called social possessions—in a girl school because a girl dresses well or has a brother who can dance well or such societies have all ways governed their actions with regard to the interest of the society and not of the school. As a rule, the members of these societies are snobs, and so far as the girls' schools are concerned in the past they have been made up of social butterflies."

"If it be said that such societies do exist and that they would be better under school control, my answer is that they do not exist in schools where the principals have strong backbones and rigid knees. . . . I am bitterly opposed to such organizations, and I have fought them, and I shall continue to fight them to the death. I know just what they do to a school, and I speak not out of bitterness but out of experience."

H. A. Potter, New Utrecht High School, argued that just as men, under all conditions, form groups, so will boys and girls. He saw no particular harm in secret societies if conducted with the approval of parents and school authorities, and said it was "useless and childish" to prohibit the wearing of society emblems. He added: "Unfortunately, however, such societies seldom work for the best interests of the institution as a whole. They endeavor to obtain for themselves a preference and privilege at the expense of their fellows, and where the common welfare and fraternity welfare clash they will surely line up on the side of the fraternity welfare in opposition to community welfare." His conclusion was "We cannot prevent groups being formed even among pupils, but we must prevent predominance of these groups in the conduct of school activities. The principal is the best judge of how this result can be obtained in his own school."

**Admit Violating Law.**

Gilbert J. Raynor, Commercial High School, said that years ago the school had fraternities with faculty advisers but that "the fact is, however, that almost universally the pupils who belonged to them sooner or later went to pieces in their studies." He commented further: "Boys of high school age cannot devote their time and thoughts to fraternity activities and succeed in their studies. There were other objections that were evident, but this alone is, in my judgment, sufficient reason for their exclusion."

Kate E. Turner, Bay Ridge High

School: "I see no reason why the secret society should reenter the high schools as a school organization, but I claim it is absurd to assume that clubs or societies shall not exist outside of the school. . . . I fancy that, following the natural instinct to get together, the pupils are drifting toward the societies that meet in the evening without school supervision, and for many of them it is practically the only kind of club or society work that they have."

From Flushing High School in Queens, Harold G. Campbell, principal, reported that after the Board of Education in 1914 put the ban on school secret societies they reorganized as outside organizations with part of their membership drawn from without the school. "There is no attempt made on the part of these organizations," Mr. Campbell said, "to deny the fact that the spirit of the law is being violated even though the letter of the law may be obeyed. It is this latter situation which to my mind makes the situation regarding fraternities a deplorable one. I have been told by a great many intelligent parents that they feel that their sons should be permitted to join these outside organizations and that these organizations are beyond the control of the high school authorities."

Mr. Campbell suggested this alternative: "First, establish a bylaw which will be legally enforceable and which will absolutely abolish all fraternities which students of high schools may join, or, second, permit the establishment of fraternity chapters in high schools under strict supervision. I think that faculty supervision should include the veto power over all propositions for membership in fraternities and should also include faculty control of activities conducted by these groups as fraternities. In my opinion either of these suggestions effectively carried out through legislation by the Board of Education would solve the problem."

P. E. Demarest, Bryant High School, Queens, would not care to have the secret societies get into the school even under faculty supervision. Irving A. Hazen, Richmond Hill High School, said he earnestly hoped that "our immunity will extend through a long period to come."

Another article in this series will appear in an early issue.

**SHIPPING VERDICT TO-MORROW**

Hague Tribunal to Pass on Norwegian Claims.

THE HAGUE, Oct. 10.—The arbitration tribunal which has had under advisement the dispute between the United States and Norway over seizure of Norwegian shipping during the war will deliver its verdict on Thursday.

Previous dispatches from Christiania and Washington indicated that the arbitration court at The Hague had virtually decided in favor of the Norwegian shipowners who had brought action against the American Shipping Board involving about 125,000,000 kroner.

**CHRISTEN NEW FERRYBOAT.**

The ferryboat Hoboken, built at the plant of the New Jersey Dry Dock and Transportation Company, Elizabeth, N. J., for the D. L. & W. Railroad, was launched yesterday at the dry dock company's shipyard. Mary Griffin, nine-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Griffin of Hoboken, christened the boat. The ceremony was witnessed by a large gathering made up of Hoboken, New York and Elizabeth officials and officers of the Lackawanna, the Lehigh Valley and other railroads.

## HAMMOND TO HEAD COAL INQUIRY BOARD

Former Vice-President Marshall Also Appointed Federal Investigator.

FIVE OTHER MEN NAMED

Commission Will Delve Into Mining Industry to Remedy Its Defects.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Oct. 10.

President Harding announced to-night the membership of the United States Coal Commission created under the Borah bill, which provided for an investigation into fundamentals of the coal mining industry with a view to prevention of future industrial disturbances.

The list of seven names made public by the President is headed by that of John Hays Hammond, mining engineer, and it includes Thomas Riley Marshall, Vice-President during the Wilson administration; Judge Samuel Anshuler, who arbitrated the labor dispute in the packing industry; Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution; George Otis Smith, head of the Geological Survey; Dr. Edward T. Devine, economist of New York City, and Dr. Charles P. Neill, former Commissioner of Labor.

Under the Borah act this commission is to examine every phase of the coal mining industry and to report to the President and Congress with recommendations of measures for its stabilization. It is to recommend legislation to insure a steady supply of coal to consumers, and to this end it is to report on ownership, labor costs, wages, production and related information about all mines. The commission also is to suggest the remedy for strikes and outline the causes of previous strikes.

Further, the commission is called upon to make recommendations as to the possibility of standardization of the mines and reorganization of the industry as strongly urged by THE NEW YORK HERALD.

It is to submit recommendations as to standardizing the cost of living for miners; standardizing a basis for arriving at overhead mine costs; the advisability of wisdom of nationalizing the industry and upon the feasibility or necessity of governmental regulation or control. It must make a preliminary report on all these things within five months.

Announcement was made at the White House to-day that it is expected the commission will meet and organize in Washington within ten days. The commission is to elect its own chairman, but there seems little doubt that John Hays Hammond will be selected to head it.

The commission was selected entirely for public service and without regard to politics. Three of its members, Mr. Marshall, Judge Anshuler and Clark Howell, have been active in the Democratic party. George Otis Smith has been in the Government service practically all his life. The other three members are Republicans, but John Hays Hammond is the only one of them who has been politically active.

The Mousquetaire—glove of the moment—demands perfection of fit, texture and finish as does no other glove.

To this chef d'oeuvre of the French glovecrafters' art, Centemeri master-glovers in Grenoble bring the inherited skill of four centuries.

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Harold Bauer

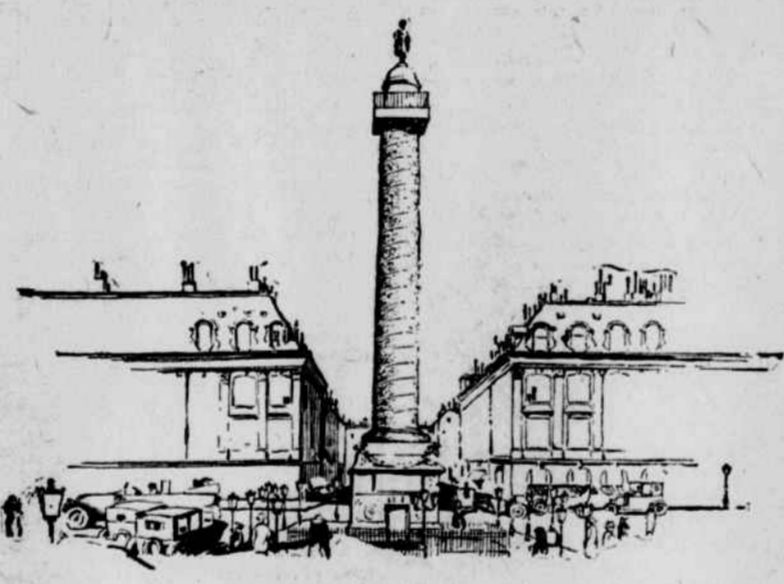
A Few from the Large Number of Music Rolls which Enable You to Hear the Piano in Your Own Home, Played with the Consummate Art of the Great Master Pianist

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| 5961 CONCERTO IN G MINOR, 2nd movement, Saint-Saens        | 6266 FANTASIE IN F MINOR, Op. 49, Chopin        |
| 5973 CONCERTO IN G MINOR, 3rd movement, Saint-Saens        | 6596 SCHERZO IN C SHARP MINOR, Op. 39, Chopin   |
| 6057 KAMENNOI OSTROW, Op. 10, No. 22, Rubinstein           | 6180 GAVOTTE, Beethoven-Bauer                   |
| 5987 TURKISH MARCH (from "The Ruins of Athens"), Beethoven | 6345 RONDO BRILLANTE, Op. 16, Weber             |
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His supreme interest, then, is the clearness and delicacy of his glass. Color? Very little. Designs? The simplest, although complete and harmonious. Lalique's whole purpose is to bring out in final perfection the crystalline purity which glass alone is capable of presenting.



AN EXAMPLE of Lalique at his best is seen in this exquisite perfume bottle with its enchanting decoration of sirens, and it will be accorded the place of honor on the dressing table of madame.

Lalique's work is widely sought for and highly prized. There cannot be much of it; one man designs all of it for the whole world and craftsmen who can translate his genius are few and far between. Naturally enough, the product is rare.

There are but two shops in America where Lalique's glassware is offered to those who love beautiful things. A famous French jeweler is one; Ovington's is the other. We have been fortunate in securing some of the finest examples of Lalique's craftsmanship.

They make rare gifts, possessing that touch of consummate artistry which genius alone imparts.



PAN THE Goat-God is the inspiration for this charming glass facon. No picture can do justice to the delicate tracery of the floral decoration and the translucent beauty of the fabric.

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